13. (Twice Amended) A method of performing calculations in a calculator having an electronic input surface, [a stylus for tracing across the electronic input surface,] an electronic monitor, and a processing circuit coupled to the electronic input surface and the electronic monitor, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) recording movements of [the] a [stylus] pointing element in the processing circuit, as the [stylus] pointing element is traced across the electronic input surface;

(b) recognizing the recorded movements of the [stylus] pointing element as characters in the processing circuit;

(c) converting the characters into a first mathematical expression [s] comprised of operands and operators in the processing circuit;

(d) displaying the first mathematical expression on the electronic monitor [so that all of the operands and operators are simultaneously displayed thereon];

(e) performing calculations indicated by the displayed first mathematical expressions in the processing circuit; [and]

(f) displaying a result of the performed calculations on the electronic monitor; and

(g) logically linking the first mathematical expression to a second mathematical expression inscribed on the electronic input surface.

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10 ~~16~~. (Amended) The invention as set forth in claim 1 ~~3~~ above, further comprising the step of accepting corrections in the mathematical expressions traced by the [stylus] pointing element in the electronic input surface.

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12 ~~18~~. (Amended) The invention as set forth in claim [17] 1 ~~3~~ above, wherein the first and second mathematical expressions are linked in response to their proximity to one another on the electronic input surface.

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13 ~~19~~. (Amended) The invention as set forth in claim [17] 1 ~~3~~ above, wherein the first and second mathematical expressions are linked in response to a user tracing a linking operator on the electronic input surface.

14 ~~20~~. (Amended) The invention as set forth in claim 13 ~~19~~ above, wherein the linking operator is an arrow having a tail proximal [a] the first [operand or] mathematical expression and a head proximal [a] the second [operator or] mathematical expression.

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16 ~~22~~. (Amended) The invention as set forth in claim 14 ~~20~~ above, wherein the logically linking step further comprises [ing] the step of re-computing the second mathematical expression when the first mathematical expression is altered on the electronic input surface.

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~~23~~. (Twice Amended) The invention as set forth in claim [17] ~~3~~ 1 above, wherein the logically linking step further comprises [ing] the step of re-computing [at least two] the first and second mathematical expressions logically linked together, thereby incorporating a result of [a] the first [calculation] mathematical expression into [a] the second [calculation] mathematical expression.

18
~~24~~. (Twice Amended) The invention as set forth in claim [17] ~~3~~ 1 above, wherein the logically linking step further comprises [ing] the step of re-computing the first and second mathematical expressions logically linked together, wherein the first and second mathematical expressions are on separate pages displayed on [an] the electronic monitor, thereby incorporating [the] a result of the first mathematical expression into the second mathematical expression.

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19
~~25~~. (Twice Amended) The invention as set forth in claim [17] ~~3~~ 1 above, wherein the logically linking step further comprises [ing] the step of re-computing the first and second mathematical expressions logically connected together, wherein the first and second mathematical expressions are in separate applications executed by the processing circuit, thereby incorporating [the] a result of the first mathematical expression into the second mathematical expression.

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~~26~~. (Amended) The invention as set forth in claim 1 ~~3~~ above, further comprising the step of accepting marks traced by the [stylus] pointing element on the electronic input surface to annotate and label the recorded movements.

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~~27~~. (Amended) The invention as set forth in claim 1 ~~3~~ above, further comprising the step of accepting insertions in the mathematical expressions traced by the [stylus] pointing element on the electronic input surface.

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~~28~~. (Amended) The invention as set forth in claim 1 ~~3~~ above, further comprising the step of accepting deletions in the mathematical expressions traced by the [stylus] pointing element on the electronic input surface.

23
~~29~~. (Amended) The invention as set forth in claim 1 ~~3~~ above, further comprising the step of accepting erasures in the mathematical expressions traced by the [stylus] pointing element on the electronic input surface.

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24
~~53~~. (New) A calculator having an electronic input surface, an electronic monitor, and a processing circuit coupled to the electronic input surface and the electronic monitor, comprising:

(a) means for recording movements of a pointing element in the processing circuit, as the pointing element is traced across the electronic input surface;

(b) means for recognizing the recorded movements of the pointing element as characters in the processing circuit;

(c) means for converting the characters into a first mathematical expression comprised of operands and operators in the processing circuit;

(d) means for displaying the first mathematical expression on the electronic monitor;

(e) means for performing calculations indicated by the displayed first mathematical expression in the processing circuit;

(f) means for displaying a result of the performed calculations on the electronic monitor; and

(g) means for logically linking the first mathematical expression to a second mathematical expression inscribed on the electronic input surface.

25
~~54~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 24, wherein the electronic monitor is the electronic input surface.

26 24
~~55~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim ~~53~~, wherein the operands comprise symbols.

27 24
~~56~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim ~~53~~, wherein the operands comprise digits.

28 27
~~57~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim ~~56~~ above, further comprising means for recognizing numbers from the relative placement of the digits, so that when the digits are traced horizontally in close proximity to one another on the electronic input surface, they are considered to be a single number.

B 15

29 24
~~58~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim ~~53~~ above, further comprising means for recognizing mathematical expressions traced horizontally and vertically on the electronic input surface.

30 24
~~59~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim ~~53~~ above, further comprising means for computing a result for the calculations when the user traces a result operator on the electronic input surface.

31 30
~~60~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim ~~59~~ above, wherein the result operator is an equal sign in a horizontal mathematical expression.

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~~61~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 30 ~~59~~ above, wherein the result operator is a result line in a vertical mathematical expression.

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~~62~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 24 ~~53~~ above, further comprising means for animating expressions on the electronic input surface as they are being calculated.

34
~~63~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 24 ~~53~~ above, further comprising means for accepting corrections in the mathematical expressions traced by the pointing element in the electronic input surface.

B 15

35
~~64~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 24 ~~53~~ above, wherein the first and second mathematical expressions are linked in response to their proximity to one another on the electronic input surface.

36
~~65~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 24 ~~53~~ above, wherein the first and second mathematical expressions are linked in response to a user tracing a linking operator on the electronic input surface.

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37
~~66~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 36 ~~65~~ above, wherein the linking operator is an arrow having a tail proximal the first mathematical expression and a head proximal the second mathematical expression.

38
~~67~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 37 ~~66~~ above, wherein a result from the first mathematical expression is an operand in the second mathematical expression.

39
~~68~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 37 ~~66~~ above, wherein the means for logically linking further comprises means for re-computing the second mathematical expression when the first mathematical expression is altered on the electronic input surface.

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~~69~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 24 ~~53~~ above, wherein the means for logically linking further comprises means for re-computing the first and second mathematical expressions logically linked together, thereby incorporating a result of the first mathematical expression into the second mathematical expression.

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~~70~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 24 ~~53~~ above, wherein the means for logically linking further comprises means for re-computing the first and second mathematical expressions logically linked together, wherein the first and second mathematical expressions are on separate pages displayed on an electronic monitor, thereby incorporating a result of the first mathematical expression into the second mathematical expression.

42
~~71~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 24 ~~53~~ above, wherein the means for logically linking further comprises means for re-computing the first and second mathematical expressions logically connected together, wherein the first and second mathematical expressions are in separate applications executed by the processing circuit, thereby incorporating a result of the first mathematical expression into the second mathematical expression.

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~~72~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 24 ~~53~~ above, further comprising means for accepting marks traced by the pointing element on the electronic input surface to annotate and label the recorded movements.

44
~~73~~. (New) The invention as set forth in claim 24 ~~53~~ above, further comprising means for accepting insertions in the mathematical expressions traced by the pointing element on the electronic input surface.

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